

## DETAILED ACTION

### *Allowable Subject Matter*

Claims 1, 3-45 are allowed.

The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance:

1. As to claim 1, the prior art of record, taken alone or in combination, fails to disclose or render obvious photoelastic material molded into shapes and wherein the shapes are animal or dinosaur shapes, in combination with the rest of the limitations of the claim.
2. As to claim 11, the prior art of record, taken alone or in combination, fails to disclose or render obvious deformable photoelastic material molded into shapes and one or more magnets embedded in the photoelastic material, in combination with the rest of the limitations of the claim.
3. As to claim 17, the prior art of record, taken alone or in combination, fails to disclose or render obvious the one or more polarized films are embedded within the photoelastic material, in combination with the rest of the limitations of the claim.
4. As to claim 21, the prior art of record, taken alone or in combination, fails to disclose or render obvious the polarized light source is a polarized bulb or other light source with integral polarizing material that does not require a separate polarizing film between the light source and the photoelastic material, in combination with the rest of the limitations of the claim.
5. As to claim 24, the prior art of record, taken alone or in combination, fails to disclose or render obvious bubbles or colloidal particles are molded into the

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photoelastic material for producing optical effects, in combination with the rest of the limitations of the claim.

6. As to claim 28, the prior art of record, taken alone or in combination, fails to disclose or render obvious stress patterns are affected by one or more springs attached to the photoelastic material, in combination with the rest of the limitations of the claim.

7. As to claim 29, the prior art of record, taken alone or in combination, fails to disclose or render obvious stress patterns are affected by one or more strings attached to the photoelastic material, in combination with the rest of the limitations of the claim.

8. As to claim 30, the prior art of record, taken alone or in combination, fails to disclose or render obvious stress patterns are affected by one or more elastic bands attached to the photoelastic material, in combination with the rest of the limitations of the claim.

9. As to claim 33, the prior art of record, taken alone or in combination, fails to disclose or render obvious an internal cavity is molded into the photoelastic material for receiving an object larger than the cavity, thus stretching the internal cavity and creating stress patterns, in combination with the rest of the limitations of the claim.

10. As to claim 43, the prior art of record, taken alone or in combination, fails to disclose or render obvious the photoelastic material is formed into a rope, in combination with the rest of the limitations of the claim.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably

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accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

### ***Conclusion***

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to JARREAS C. UNDERWOOD whose telephone number is (571) 272-1536. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday-Friday 0530-1400.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Gregory J. Toatley can be reached on (571) 272-2059. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

/J. C. U./  
Examiner, Art Unit 2877

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9/8/2008

/L. G. Lauchman/  
Primary Examiner, Art Unit 2877

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